## BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of	)		
	)		
Section 20.19 of the Commission's Rules	-	)	WT Docket No. 01
		309	
Governing Hearing Aid-Compatible Telephones		)	RM-8658

## Report and Request for Waiver--47 C.F.R. § 20.19(d)(2) Hearing Aid Compatibility--Inductive Coupling

Nemont Communications, Inc., Sagebrush Cellular, Inc., and Triangle Communication System, Inc. ("Reporters"), digital wireless service providers, pursuant to the Federal Communications Commission's ("Commission" or "FCC") *Report and Order* in WT Docket No. 01-309, FCC 03-168, 29 CR 1299 (August 14, 2003), at the staff's request, hereby files a supplemental report concerning the availability of digital phones for the hearing impaired.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> On July 7, 2004 the FCC published notice that it had obtained OMB approval to collect hearing aid compatibility reports from wireless carriers. 69 Fed. Reg. 40928 (Wednesday, July 7, 2004). Pursuant to the Report and Order, Amendment of Section 68.4(a) of the Commission's Rules Governing Hearing Aid-Compatible Telephones, 68 Fed. Reg. 54173 (September 16, 2003), reports are due every six months after rule effectiveness for the first three years and then annually for the next two years. The first reports were filed in November 2004.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The staff clarified that the waiver request should not be withdrawn; we appreciate the staff comment and Reporter withdraws the withdrawal request.

- 1) Do Reporters currently comply with Section 20.19(d)(2) of the Commission's Rules? Response: Yes.<sup>3</sup>
- 2) On what date did Reporters first comply? **Response**: Reporters were fully compliant as of December 21, 2006.
- 3) For each interface for which waiver is sought, which 2 handsets were offered on the initial compliance date? Please provide the manufacturer name, model number, and FCC ID number of these 2 t-coil certified handsets. **Response:** Reporter received its first two inductive coupling compliant handsets for stock on December 21, 2006: Motorola SLVR L7c, IHDT56GQ1; Motorola KRZR K1m, IHDT56GH1. The noted FCC ID#s were taken directly from new handsets in stock; Reporters are unable to obtain FCC ID#s from handsets which have been sold and are no longer in Reporter's control.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 3}$  While reporters serve neighboring markets, they share the same handset retail distribution points.

4) Additional information in support of the waiver request: From the time of the filing of the initial HAC waiver request through December 2006 Reporters would check, usually weekly, with their handset vendors regarding the availability of HAC compliant handsets. Reporters, like other tier three carriers, purchase handsets from wholesalers rather than directly from the manufacturer. These wholesalers must wait until the manufacturer produces a generic model before the wholesalers are able to stock the handset for distribution to small carriers like Reporters. Since the time of the waiver filing, and previously, Reporters were in contact with various vendors on a regular basis discussing HAC compliant handset availability. Reporters learned of the availability of the Motorola KRZR K1m in November 2006 and learned of the Motorola SLVR L7c, IHDT56GQ1 in December 2006. The handsets were promptly ordered and tested for suitability on Reporters' wireless networks. Upon finding the handsets to be suitable for Reporters' networks, Reporters promptly ordered handsets and had them in stock for customers as of December 21, 2006. It is respectfully submitted that Reporter worked diligently to obtain HAC compliant handsets, that Reporters endeavored to keep the FCC updated with the status of their progress regarding compliance, that the time of non-compliance was brief, that no person has requested or been refused a HAC compliant handset, and that grant of the requested waiver would serve the public interest.<sup>4</sup>

> Respectfully Submitted, Timothy E. Welch Hill & Welch 1330 New Hampshire Ave., N.W.

June 12, 2007 #113

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Reporter has never received a request for a HAC compliant handset from a current, former, or prospective subscriber.

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